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U.S. - - CAPTIVE OF ZIONISM

In 1948, when President Truman helped zionists create Israel as a new nation, he broke a promise which he and President Roosevelt before him had made to Arabs: namely, that the U.S. would not support the establishment of a Jewish state in the Arab homeland.

In his memoirs, Truman reveals his resentment of zionists for the intense pressures they put on him to support their machinations in Palestine; but he claims he acted not in response to their demands, but out of compassion for Jewish refugees in Europe who did not want to return to their nations of origin. He says he also felt a responsibility to implement the Balfour Declaration of 1917, the Balfour Declaration being the old World War I promise of the British to support the establishment of a "National Home for the Jewish People" in Palestine — a promise which the British themselves had been repudiating since 1922, when Winston Churchill asserted that the Balfour Declaration never contemplated the creation of a "wholly Jewish Palestine."

Truman's compassion for homeless European Jewish refugees made homeless refugees of a roughly-equivalent number of Palestinian Arabs; but Truman expresses no compassion for the Arabs whose misery, which he helped to cause, was worse than that of the Jews whom he succored. Truman makes no attempt to explain why an American President in 1948 had any responsibility for implementing a meaningless promise which the British government made in 1917.

The truth is that Truman, underdog in the 1948 presidential election, desperately needed Jewish support, especially in New York where, in one city, at least two million Jews resided. In breaking his own and President Roosevelt's promise to Arabs, Truman turned more than 100 million Arabs from friends to enemies of the United States, and drove them into the waiting arms of the Soviet Union; and he created in the Middle East a situation which daily threatens a world-shattering explosion. But he won the election.

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The peace, honor, and security of his own nation; the uprooting and exile from their homes in Palestine of a million Arabs, and the consignment of themselves and their progeny to perpetual poverty and despair in squalid refugee camps in other Arab countries; and peace in the Middle East — this is the price Harry Truman paid for the votes and immeasurably powerful influence of Jews in the 1948 election. And it cost Truman little in domestic political support because there was virtually no "Arab influence" or "Arab vote" in the United States.

With machiavellian shrewdness and cynicism, communists have taken advantage of the situation which Truman and the zionists created in the Middle East. Prior to 1948, the Arab world was generally pro-American, anti-Soviet. Now, Arabs are pro-Soviet; and they hate the United States more intensely than they ever disliked the Soviets.

Old Arab antipathy to the Soviets rested in part on Arab repugnance to the Soviets' atheism. Although Arab states, like Israel, have adopted the subtle form of communism called *socialism*, undisguised communism is distasteful to most Arabs because it is openly atheistic. Prior to 1948, most Arabs, who are militant fighters for the Mohammedan religious faith, scorned close alliance with atheists. Now (thanks to U.S. support of zionism, and despite the odd fact that the Communist Party is still outlawed in most Arab states), Arab nations are tied tightly to the Soviet Union. The present extent of dangerous communist domination in the Arab world (where communism had no perceptible foothold prior to 1948) was somewhat revealed by western reaction to the death of President Nasser of Egypt in September, 1970. Although Nasser was a puppet of the Soviet Union, he was mourned in the west as the only Arab leader who had a strong *moderating* influence in the Middle East. It is feared that, with Nasser gone, Arab leadership will be in the hands of men who are more militant communists and more aggressive haters of Israel and the United States than Nasser was.

The old Arab antipathy to the Soviet Union also rested in part on Arab fear of Russia's imperialistic ambitions in the Mediterranean area. For centuries, Russian czars (and, in the twentieth century, communist dictators of Russia) tried to acquire naval bases in Arab countries touching the Mediterranean Sea. They failed, because of Arab hostility and fear. The threat of Russian naval power in the strategic Mediterranean was non-existent — practically unimaginable. But since 1948, the Soviet Union has acquired ample, strategically-located naval bases in Arab Mediterranean ports; has become the most formidable naval power in the Middle East (replacing the U.S. in that role); and is rapidly transforming the Mediterranean Sea into a communist-controlled lake. Today, Soviet warships are officially welcome in Lebanese Mediterranean ports; American warships, officially unwelcome. Until recently, that situation was the other way around: Soviet naval vessels were not permitted to call at Lebanese ports, but American ships were always welcome.

Arab refugees from lands seized by Israel now number about two million (half a million less than the total population of Israel). Homeless and propertyless, embittered and desperate, the Arab refugees have created grave economic, social, and political problems in the Middle East. They supply leadership and recruits for the guerrilla groups, most of which are communist-dominated. The most violent and dangerous of Arab guerrilla groups — the Palestine Liberation Movement — is openly communist; and its members are almost as hideous in behavior and ideology as the new-left communist revolutionaries in the United States. This is the group that executed the recent pirating and destruction of commercial airliners and the kidnapping of passengers.

Arab guerrilla groups often have more public support, and therefore more strength, than official governments of Arab countries. Often, the guerrillas are beyond control of the strongest and most stable Arab governments. Hence, to a dangerous degree, Arab governments have become

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captives of Arab guerrillas, many of whom are bloodthirsty communist revolutionaries, all of whom are reckless, filled with hate, responsible to no one or nothing, and feeling they have nothing to lose.

On the reverse side of the coin, the U.S. government, to a very dangerous degree, has become a captive of the little socialist nation of Israel which our politicians helped create, and which the bounty of our people and of our government has subsidized.

Twice since 1948, Israel has started war in the Middle East (1956 and 1967), knowing both times that if she got into real trouble the U.S. government would come to her aid, no matter the cost to the people of the United States. On both occasions when she went to war, Israel also knew she was starting a long chain of consequences that would seriously damage American interests in the Middle East, even if America was not drawn directly into the war. And on both occasions, Israel plunged into war without even the courtesy of giving the American government advance notice.

When Israel invaded Egypt in 1956, the United States was bound by an agreement with France and England to aid *any* victim of aggression in the Middle East. But France and England joined Israel in the aggression against Egypt. Egypt was in the hands of a dictator who was a Soviet puppet. It was unthinkable that our government would take action against Israel. And so, President Eisenhower announced that there would be "no United States involvement."

When the 1956 war was over, however, Eisenhower got us more heavily involved in the Middle East than ever before. He announced, and Congress approved (January, 1957) the Eisenhower Doctrine, promising limitless military aid, including the use of American armed forces, to any Middle Eastern nation requesting such aid to combat "overt armed aggression from any nation controlled by international communism."

The Eisenhower Doctrine did not, of course, slow down the growth of communist influence and power in the Middle East. The chief result of the Eisenhower Doctrine was a 10-year armaments race. The U.S. helped finance both sides, giving military aid to Israel and Arab nations. France and England (with American tax money lent or given to them by our government) also helped finance both sides. The Soviets, pursuing their strategy of encouraging Arab-Israeli hostility to widen the rift between the U.S. and its former Arab friends, gave military aid only to the Arabs.

So, in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, both sides were more heavily armed than before; and both fought with American weapons.

Both sides accuse the other of making the first strike in 1967. Facts indicate that Israel struck first. One of the facts was the Israeli attack (June 8, 1967) on the *U.S.S. Liberty*, a U.S. Navy communications ship cruising in international waters near the eastern shore of the Mediterranean. The American flag was flying on the *Liberty*, and her name and other identification marks were prominently in view. It was early afternoon; the sea was calm; and visibility was practically unlimited. Two Israeli jets came in for a close look at the *Liberty*. Thirty minutes later, three Israeli jets made several strafing runs on the ship, splattering decks and hull with some 821 rocket and cannon hits. Some twenty minutes after the strafing, three Israeli patrol boats moved in and attacked the *Liberty* with guns and torpedoes. Our ship never fired a shot. Total American casualties: 34 dead, 75 wounded. Damage to the ship was critical.

Our government said quite bluntly that the Israelis could not have attacked the *Liberty* by mistake. Nonetheless, Israel's formal apology was accepted; and the matter ended there.

The attack on the *Liberty* was a deliberate decision by some important Israeli official. But why?

One published account in June, 1967, said the Israelis deliberately tried to sink the *Liberty*, knowing it was American, because it had inter-

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cepted and recorded messages proving that Israel had started the war with surprise attacks. Israeli and American officials denied this story — on the grounds that it was "unthinkable," because Israel regards the U.S. as her chief ally.

Israeli behavior in 1968, however, suggests the possibility that Israel feels safe in defying her "chief ally" at will — believing that zionist economic and political influence in the U.S. is strong enough to guarantee U.S. support of Israel regardless of what she does.

On December 26, 1968, two Arab terrorists attacked, with hand grenades, an El Al (Israeli) commercial airliner at the airport in Athens, Greece. One Israeli citizen was killed, another wounded. The plane was severely damaged. The terrorists were arrested immediately and jailed in Athens. The Israeli government said the two men traveled to Athens on a commercial airliner which they boarded at Beirut, Lebanon.

There is no indication, however, that Lebanon was responsible in any way for the two men. Apparently, they were not even Lebanese citizens, but men from a camp of refugees driven from their homes in Palestine by the Israelis. In fact, Lebanese and Israeli officials had a meeting the day after the attack, and said nothing about Lebanese responsibility.

Nonetheless, Israel retaliated against the nation of Lebanon.

On December 28, 1968, a strong detachment of Israeli soldiers, traveling in military helicopters, made a 45-minute raid on the Beirut airport. They inflicted no personal injuries, and sustained none; but they destroyed on the ground all airplanes with Arab markings — in all, 14 big passenger planes.

The fact that Israel — presumed throughout the world to have a virtually unbreakable hold on United States support, including military support if needed — would attack a sovereign nation, in retaliation for the crimes of two individuals for whom the nation had no responsibility, raises a fearsome possibility: the possibility of some aggressive Israeli action, over which we have no control, involving us in war.

This is the dangerous condition which our government's aiding and meddling in the Middle East has put us in; but, instead of trying to extricate us, President Nixon seems determined to make our involvement worse. He is still giving aid to both sides, but has made it perfectly clear that, if need be, the U.S. will protect Israel, regardless of circumstances or consequences.

Now that we have already lost all of our friends and influence in the Middle East, we ought to wash our hands of Israel *and* of the Arab nations, and let them all shift for themselves.

It would be politically possible for our government to stop aiding the Arabs; but zionist influence is so strong in the U.S. that there seems to be little hope of disengaging our nation from the clutches of zionists.

SOURCES

Information herein is from four Reports on Israel, Jan. 20 and 27 and Feb. 3 and 10, 1969. Reprints of the four-part series on Israel, giving details and sources of information, are still available as a set for 75 cents. They are also available in the 1969 Bound Volume of *The Dan Smoot Report*.

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